A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, July 13. 1710.

I Cannot I quit the Discourse of our Stocks rising and falling, without some farther Observations; the Thing is visible, and cannot be deny'd, I'll state it Undeniably fair.

Upon the late Remove of a Minister of State, the People, whether Alarm'd at that Remove singly, or in Apprehension of farther Alteration, shew'd a great Concern, and the Publick Credit felt it immediately, and would have felt it more sensibly, had it not been reviv'd by Assurances, which we were told her Majesty gave to the Directors of the Bank, that no other Alterations were then design'd.

This restor'd Things, and the People were made easie, in their dependance upon their Prince: On a sudden the Town was Alarm'd, with a view of the Dissolution of the Parliament; I make no doubt, the Report of the certainty of the Thing, was carry'd about with the more warmth, as some People thought it a means, to assist in bringing it to pass, as a Thing the Nation were possess'd with, that the first alarm of it was over, that the People expected it, that it was absolutely neceessary to do it, to maintain the Credit of their Consultations, and testifie they were not afraid to do it, and the like; and above all, that it was *the Sense of the Nation*, and every Body desired it.

No sooner was this Report spread, but Stock fell; and as that Rumour encreased, they

they fell farther and farther, till the Bank fell from 126, to 118, and others in Proportion.

At last, the Town wearied with the long Expectation, and having been upon the Rack for some Days, all the to-morrows and to-morrows of the Party having been arriv'd, and the Proclamation (by their Report) having been so long in the Press, that *it seem'd to be Press'd to Death*; People began to see it was a High-Flying Amusement only, that all the Positive Reports of it were false and fictitious, all the Suggestions of it frivolous; and that if any such thing was intended, those who had it under Consideration, had found, that the farther they look'd into it, the more difficulties they found in it; and in short, that at last it is not done, and now no more apprehended.

Upon this View, the Stocks rise, Credit gradually recovers, and things begin to be restor'd to their former Course.

Now, Gentlemen, you that are busie Mobbing the Nation into Addresses, which *I think*, are against themselves; like *Adonijah*, who in effect, Address'd King *Solomon against his own Life*; that would have the *Sense of the Nation*, judg'd by a Company of flattering Addresses, procur'd by Party-Craft, and Worded to Convince your Sovereign, that they ought *to pass for nothing*, being of the same kind of those, *that have past for nothing* in all Ages, and more especially in that of *Richard Cromwel*, and the late King *James*: To you, Gentlemen, I say, that prompt us to judge of *the Sense of the Nation*, pray let me ask a few Questions, tho' none of your Champions have been yet pleased to say a Word, to answer the last doubts I propos'd.

If the Sense of the Nation be for Dissolving the Parliament, or Changing the Ministry, Why do the People draw their Estates out of the Hands of the Publick, upon the first Rumours of it, and still more as those Rumours encrease? And again, throw their Estates into the Hands of the Government, as the Probability of those Alterations wear off?

If any thing will shew *the true Sense of the Nation*, it is the rising and falling of Credit; and I am persuaded this Party are too sensible of it, not to find some difficulties upon them about it. The Party have offer'd two mighty Arguments against this Article, of the falling of Credit; and really they are *two such*, as no Man but must allow this to be an Age of strong Delusion, when they can see these pass, and not put the whole Nation into a Surprize.

1. They talk of some *mighty Money'd Men of their side*, who will fall in, and with their Immense Cash, *Support Credit*, supply the Publick Wants, and keep every thing up, in spight of *Whiggish* Notions; that the Funds, or the Exchequer, or the Annuities, or the Debts, shall feel no blow, by the Alterations they may make,

This, *without Reflection upon Persons*, is so foolish a Project, that it is no sooner heard of, *than laugh'd at*; and all the Sir *Charles*'s, Sir *Francis*'s, and Sir *Richard*'s of that Party, are able to do no more in that Case, than my L. *H*———*s* Thumb would do, to the Tide at *Graves-End*.

2. But we have *another Thing* started by these Gentlemen; and indeed 'tis such a Monster, that I shall say little to it, only *Hang it up in the Sun* for the People to stare at; let them call it *what for a Creature* they please, *pray listen to it*: "What do you tell us of "*Banks*, Publick *Funds*, *Debts*, and "the National *Credit*? The Nation "*is not in Debt*, How can People be "in Debt *to themselves*? We have "only shuffled our own Money about, "*from Hand to Hand*, 'tis all in the "Nation still, you have only Chalk'd "up a *long Score*, of what *A* owes "to *B*, and *B* to *C*; you have no-"thing to do, but take a *Parliament-*"*Sponge* and wipe it all out; a few "private Persons *may lose a little in-*"*deed*, but the General Stock of the "Nation is not the less, 'tis *all among* "*us*; *To say all* the Families in the "Kingdom are concern'd in it, and every

" every Body that has any thing, has " ſomething in this great Maſs, call'd " the Publick; *this is to ſay*, the Thing " is *the more juſt*, for then 'tis but " *as a General Tax*, and every Body " bears the Burthen; *it lies all among* " *us*, and we muſt *forgive one another*; " Nay, 'tis the more Reaſonable Tax " too, becauſe it will not touch the " Poor; for no Man loſes any thing, " but *he that has it to loſe*: 'Twill be " a Tax only upon our National Uſu- " ry; and the Labourers, the Huſ- " band-men, the Manufacturers, ſuf- " fer nothing.

That this begins to be the Language of the Party, is evident, and this indeed is what I call, THE SHORTEST WAY WITH THE NATION: If they offer to Charge me with Slandring them, *as they would have done once before*; I anſwer their own Works, ſince I have proved the firſt *Shorteſt Way* was juſt; and Proof of this may be had from the Heads of their Party, of the firſt Quality, when ever they pleaſe; for 'tis their Ordinary Diſcourſe.

Now, Gentlemen, if this be the Honeſty of the Party, can any Body blame the People, for *Drawing off their Money*, when they ſee any Dangcr of their prevailing? I think you need go no farther, for *the Senſe of the Nation*.

I ſhall enter a little farther in my next, into the Article of Credit ——— As it ſeems to be affected, by the publick Storm of Parties we are now threatned with—— And if I prove, that the Meaſures they are now taking, tend to the Ruin and blowing up the Nation's Credit, as I doubt not I ſhall; I don't queſtion, but it will teach ſome People Lectures of Moderation, which they will find Occaſion enough for, in the courſe of the New Revolution, they Threaten us with.

As to Dr. *Sacheverell* and his Rabbles, at which ſome People ſeem very much Concern'd, for my part, I am not at all uneaſie about them; I am perſuaded he is doing his own Buſineſs in it, and indeed I find the moſt judicious of his own Friends, both aſham'd of his Conduct, and apprehenſive of the Conſequences——— Therefore I am for ſaying, give him Rope enough, and let him go on.

In the mean time, to all thoſe Gentlemen, who are amuſed and carry'd away, with the preſent fooliſh Notions of a Party, (*viz.*) That the Church of *England* is Concern'd in the Doctrines of Dr. *Sacheverell*'s late Seditious Diſcourſe ——— *Beſides the Scandal thereby brought upon the Church*, as if her Doctrine was SEDITIOUS, as flying in the Face of the Government; BLOODY, as Teaching Perſecution; and SLANDEROUS, as Reproaching the Parliament; *all which* have been prov'd upon that Sermon of his: ——— The Impartial Reader, who is willing to hear Reaſon, and adhere to Truth, *is Humbly referr'd* to an Excellent Sermon, Preach'd (*June* 25) in her Majeſty's Royal Chappel at *Windſor*: By the Reverend Mr. *Goddard* Canon of *Windſor*: Entitled *The Guilt &c. of Cenſure*; wherein among other parts of that Excellent Diſcourſe, I cannot omit Quoting theſe two; referring you to the Sermon it ſelf, which is now Publiſh'd, for the reſt.

The Firſt Page is p. 18. thus.

It is not to be wonder'd at, that an Angry, Reſtleſs, Diſcontented *Perſon, ſhould Undertake to blacken and aſperſe a Miniſtry, who have all along ſhewn themſelves Enemies to* Violence, *and* Promoters of Union: *But that the* Reviler *of the Government ſhould be* Hug'd, *and* Careſs'd, *where-ever he goes; that he ſhould be* Conducted *in* Triumph, *and with* Acclamations *thro' part of the* Kingdom; *that his wicked* Slanders *ſhould meet with* Approbation, *and* Encouragement, *&c. is the moſt* Aſtoniſhing *thing in the World. This is ſuch a* Contradiction *to the* Chriſtian Religion, *ſuch an* Affront *to* Government, *that I want the* Spirit *of that* SLANDER, *to know by what Name to call it.*

Again

Again *Page* 22.

Is this a Time to Teach the People to ſlight, and contemn the Determinations of Parliament, *by Conducting a Perſon Convicted of* High Crimes, *and* Miſdemeanours, *by that* Auguſt Aſſembly, *through the Kingdom in* Triumph—— *I ſhall only ſay, this is playing the* Maſters *to the purpoſe; it is Inſulting and Trampling upon both Governours and* Government; *it is Uſurping the Judgment of that, which has already receiv'd the Determination of the higheſt Court of Judicature upon Earth.*

Whether this or Dr. *Sacheverell's* Sermon, be moſt like the Doctrine of the Church of *England*, is left to every Chriſtian Judgment: And I referr the Reader to the Sermon it ſelf, which I believe they will find very well worth their Peruſal.

Adverſiſement from the Town of DERBY.

WHereas on or about the ſecond or third Day, of one theſe laſt Weeks; a certain Wicked Perſon not yet diſcover'd, living at, or near the Town of *Derby*, aforeſaid; did Malitiouſly and Seditiouſly, and with intent to abuſe her Majeſty's Liege-People, and peaceable Subjects; Report to the People there, That *the Reverend Dr. Sacheverell* was coming to make his publick Entry into the ſaid Town, as he has done in ſeveral others in *England*; and that he was juſt at Hand, with a Trumpet before him, and two great Perſons with him, and the like; by which the Loyal People of the Town, were induc'd to Ring their Bells, and raiſe the Mob; in order, as in Duty bound, to attend, meet, and wait upon the Reverend Doctor, into the ſaid Town; and whereas upon the noiſe of the Trumpet approaching the Town, the ſaid Wicked Perſon excited the honeſt People, to go in a Body to meet the ſaid Dr.; but to their great ſurprize, found it to be nothing but a Trumpeter and two Bears——Who were coming to the Town, for their more innocent Diverſion. *Theſe are to give Notice*, That whoever ſhall diſcover to any of her Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace, the ſaid wicked Perſon—So as he may be brought to Condign Puniſhment for the ſame—— Shall be very well rewarded by the ſaid Dr. *Sacheverell*, beſides the Bleſſing of all his Friends in the Town of *Derby*,

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Guilt, Miſchief, and Aggravation of Cenſure. Set forth in a Sermon Preach'd in St. George's Chappel, *within her Majeſty's Caſtle of* Windſor; *on Sunday the* 25th *of* June, 1710. *By* Tho. Goddard, M. A. *Canon of* Windſor. *Printed for* Bernard Lintot, *at the* Croſs-Keys *between the Two Temple-Gates in* Fleet-ſtreet.

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